



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Canyon Country District Office
82 East Dogwood
Moab, Utah 84532



In Reply Refer To:
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February 21, 2018

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
c/o Nancy Brown, BLM Liaison
401 F Street NW, Suite 308
Washington, DC 20001-2637

Re: Determination of No Adverse Effect for BLM March 2018 Canyon Country District Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Dear Ms. Brown:

Pursuant to 36CFR800.5(c)(3)(i), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requests that the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) review the findings of the *Cultural Resources Review for the March 2018 Canyon Country District Oil and Gas Lease Sale* and provide its opinion as to whether the adverse effect criteria have been correctly applied. BLM has received concurrence from the Utah State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) with its finding of **No Adverse Effect** for the offering of 43 parcels in Grand and San Juan Counties within the Canyon Country District for the competitive oil and gas lease sale to be held in March 2018. Friends of Cedar Mesa and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, as consulting parties to this undertaking, have formally disagreed with BLM's finding of effect.

The attached report is an intensive cultural resources records review and analysis through which BLM has determined that reasonably foreseeable oil and gas development as a result of the March 2018 lease sale can occur within all parcels without adverse effects to historic properties. Further, cultural resources protection stipulations are attached to all parcels, giving BLM the authority and discretion to modify or disapprove any future oil and gas activity related to the sale of these leases that may result in adverse effects to historic properties.

The sale of a lease does not authorize any surface disturbing activities, including development of specific well pads or other oil and gas facilities. Future undertakings associated with oil and gas development on these leases will be handled through site specific National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 processes. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities until it completes its obligations under the NHPA and other authorities for this future undertaking and has ensured that all lease

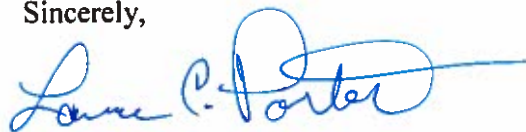
stipulation requirements have been met.

BLM notified consulting parties of its finding of no adverse effect and provided the appropriate documentation on January 9, 2018. In its letter to consulting parties, BLM emphasized the continued opportunity for input and informed them of the process for disagreement at 36CFR800.5(c)(2)(i). BLM also held a meeting with consulting parties with the intention of resolving any disagreement through consultation on January 24, 2018. BLM asked for and has received written correspondence stating consulting parties' disagreement and reasons for disagreement.

As required at 36 CFR800.11(e), BLM is here providing the ACHP with the required documentation for a finding of no adverse effect. The documentation is located in the enclosed documents as follows: (1) The undertaking is described at page 1 of the report, the APE is described at page 4 of the report, and project maps are provided in Appendices A-F ; (2) BLM's identification efforts are described at pages 4-13 of the report; (3) descriptions of the historic properties affected are at page 13-14 of the report, and are also described for each lease parcel on pages 15-76; (4) the undertaking's effect on historic properties can be found at pages 3-4 and 7-8 of the report; (5) an explanation for why the criteria of adverse effect were found inapplicable for each lease parcel can be found on pages 15-76 of the report, discussions of BLM's cultural resource protection lease stipulations can be found at pages 14, 21, and 34 and in Appendix G; and (6) consulting party concerns are summarized in the report at pages 8-11, all written consulting party comments for the draft report are tabulated in Appendix H, and consulting parties disagreements are included in the enclosed cd. In addition, SHPO's letter of concurrence is included in Appendix J. All of the above documentation will be made available to consulting parties and the public through ePlanning.gov, with the appropriate redaction to protect sensitive cultural resources information.

Enclosed you will find the letters of disagreement from consulting parties and the final report and appendices; including Appendix J, a log of BLM's consultation efforts. If you have any questions, please contact John Chmelir by email at jchmelir@blm.gov or at (435) 587-1513 or Ashley Losey by email at alosey@blm.gov or at (801) 539-4079. We appreciate all the time and effort you have put into this undertaking and look forward to continuing to work with you on undertakings throughout the Canyon Country District.

Sincerely,



Lance Porter
Canyon Country District Manager

Enclosed:

CD containing digital copies of consulting parties' letters of disagreement and the final report and appendices